

CLAIMS

1. A device (2) for managing remote conferences, including:

- means for receiving from a telephone conference bridge (4), participant (10 - 14) presence data in an audio conference, so-called audio presence data,

- storage means (242, 244, 246, 248) for storing, user telephone number data and data identifying a user apparatus (20 - 24), in connection with the telephone number data,

- means (240) for determining, by means of the audio presence data and stored data, the apparatuses (20, 22, 24) of participants in a conference.

2. The device according to claim 1, the storage means storing a database of telephone and user apparatus identification number data.

3. The device according to claim 1 or 2, further including means (240, 254) for sending conference data to the devices of participants in a conference.

4. The device according to one of claims 1 to 3, further including means (240) for identifying a request for sending conference data to an apparatus of a participant in a conference.

5 5. The device according to one of claims 1 to 4, further including means (240) for determining the type of data, from the conference data, which may be provided to an apparatus of a participant in a conference.

10 6. The device according to one of claims 1 to 5, further including means (240, 254) for sending to each user apparatus identified as a participant in a conference, data relating to the apparatuses of other users also participating in the conference.

15 7. A remote conference system, including a device according to one of claims 1 to 6, and a plurality of apparatuses of users or participants.

8. A method for managing remote conferences, including:

20 - receiving via a device (2) for managing conferences, data from a telephone conference bridge (4), and concerning the presence of participants (10 - 14) in a conference, so-called audio presence data,

25 - determining the apparatuses of users (20, 22, 24) participating in or to be included in a conference, by means of audio presence data and of stored data identifying a user apparatus (20 - 24), in connection with the telephone number data.

30 9. The method according to claim 8, audio presence data being communicated from the conference

bridge (4) to the management device (2) as soon as a user alters his/her presence at an audio conference.

10. The method according to claim 8 or 9,
5 conference data being addressed to an apparatus (20 - 24) of a participant in the conference upon request from the latter.

11. The method according to claim 8 or 9,
10 conference data being addressed to an apparatus (20 - 24) of a participant in the conference without any specific request from the latter.

12. The method according to one of claims 8
15 to 11, data for identifying apparatuses of other users participating in the conference being addressed to at least one participant in the conference.

13. The method according to one of claims 8
20 to 12, the stored data identifying a user apparatus (20 - 24), in connection with telephone number data, being sent to the device (2) for managing each apparatus (20 - 24) during a request for establishing a conference or during a request for accessing an already existing
25 conference.

14. The method according to one of claims 8
to 12, the stored data identifying a user apparatus (20 - 24), in connection with telephone number data, being
30 stored beforehand in the management device (2), before

a request for establishing a conference or a request
for accessing an already existing conference.